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## THE WEATHER.

Washington, Jan. 15.—For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Fair; east winds.  
For Missouri: Cloudy in the morning, followed by fair; winds shifting to south; not so cold in western portion.  
For Kansas: Generally fair; slightly warmer; south winds.

Stations.	Bar.	Th.	Pr.	W.	H.
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Bismarck, N. D.	29.04	18	7	Snow	
Des Moines, Ia.	29.28	20	10	Cloudy	
Duluth, Minn.	29.12	18	10	Clear	
Galveston, Tex.	29.06	26	10	Cloudy	
Helena, Mont.	29.08	22	10	Clear	
Kansas City, Mo.	29.12	20	10	Cloudy	
New Orleans, La.	29.10	26	10	Cloudy	
Oklahoma City, O.T.	29.26	24	10	Cloudy	
St. Louis, Mo.	29.28	24	10	Cloudy	
St. Paul, Minn.	29.26	24	10	Cloudy	
Salt Lake City, U.	29.06	24	10	Cloudy	
Spokane, Wash.	29.24	20	10	Cloudy	

## WINE IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

The New York World has been making a test of the temperance sentiment among the men who compose the electoral college. Each was asked to state whether or not he had any objections to the use of wine on the president's table at the White House.

Up to date replies have been received from 126 of the electors, and of these 127 declared for the use of wine if the president desired it. Only thirty-three objected. In the prohibition states of Iowa and Kansas but two out of thirteen responses were opposed to the use of the beverage, and from Maine and Vermont, two other prohibition states, came no objection at all. Kentucky, the home of the cocktail and high ball, furnished eight answers, and five of them were opposed to wine.

The only president since Washington's time who had nerve enough to carry his temperance principles into the White House was Rutherford B. Hayes, though it is pretty well understood that wine was banished from the presidential table more in deference to the wishes of Mrs. Hayes than because of the rigid temperance views of the president. Major McKinley is said to be a total abstainer, but it does not follow that he will banish wine from the White House table. He will probably feel about it as the preacher did when a sympathetic but somewhat profane citizen of his town put his name down for \$30 toward the church debt with the remark, "It's a d-d good cause and I am glad to help it." A horrified bystander demanded to know of the preacher why he did not rebuke such profanity, and received the response: "This is no time to reform the sinful."

## NEEDLESS ALARM.

Hon. Jeremiah Simpson, of Kansas, is filled with solemn forebodings and trembles at the impending fate of the guileless Populists in the Kansas legislature. He greatly fears they will fall a prey to the wiles of the Republicans and that their undoing and downfall will speedily result. Mr. Simpson bases this prognostication on the theory that the Republicans of Kansas are "very smooth and slippery," and, moreover, "very cunning." These qualifications, he thinks, will enable them to outwit the Populists.

Possibly Senator Lyons may have been sincere in presenting the resolution, but it is certain that his mind received great light after consultation with his colleagues. It is not at all likely there will be any investigation, or if there is, it will be entirely perfunctory and end in a "whitewash." The excuse that the action of Tuesday was "too hasty" is so diaphanous that anybody can see through it, and Mr. Lyons' alacrity in "bowing to the will of the majority" looks very much as if he were glad to get out of the affair, after posting on a high, moral plane for a brief moment. The opinion of a prominent citizen of Kansas City that his course was a piece of unalloyed humbug seems well founded.

However, it is not easy to see where the Democratic party can be benefited by thus declining to investigate the serious charges laid at the door of the police department of this city. There are thousands of honest Democrats, not only in Kansas City, but all over the state, who will condemn such action as cowardly and as an effort to avoid the truth, to the end that the efficiency of the bourgeois machine in this city may not be disturbed. Adding the crime of attempted concealment to that of notorious corruption will not benefit the party responsible for it.

## LAST YEAR'S FIRE LOSSES.

The New York Journal of Commerce announces that fire insurance losses in the United States and Canada during the calendar year 1896 amounted to \$115,555,500, or \$14,184,800 less than in 1895, and \$12,500,000 less than in 1894. The great fires of the year were at Cripple Creek with loss amounting to \$2,000,000; Ontonagon, loss \$1,750,000; Philadelphia, loss \$1,600,000, and Chicago, loss \$1,200,000. Generally speaking, 1896 covered a period of high rates and light losses, and the underwriting interests stand upon the business of the new year in good financial condition and with a feeling of hopefulness for the future.

Insurance experience of earlier days led to the opinion, which has crystallized into nearly a professional dogma, that, on the average, fire losses decrease or increase in close proportion to the contraction or expansion of average business prosperity. Measured by this standard, the important decrease noted in the losses of 1896, compared with those for the twelve-month preceding, is suggestive of some improvement in mercantile conditions considered in the aggregate. If that be not a remarkable deduction, then either the preventive and protective organization of the insurance interests has advanced nearly to perfection or the world is growing less careless and more honest.

## Worth Considering.

From the Washington Post.  
A Missouri man has just been sentenced to the penitentiary for 102 years. Missouri

vented from borrowing a dollar in the future his environment will fall nothing short of the celestial. The premises are right and the conclusion is natural, and therefore we adjudge the Kansas legislature to stop its weak and puerile meddling with the interest laws and go straight to the bottom of the money-lending evil.

## SHERMAN FOR SECRETARY OF STATE.

It seems to be pretty well understood that Senator Sherman is to go into President McKinley's cabinet as secretary of state. The dispatches say positively that he has been offered the portfolio and that he has accepted.

In making this selection—if he has made it—Mr. McKinley has shown his usual excellent judgment, and his choice will be heartily approved by the intelligent judgment of the country. Mr. Sherman would make a careful, cool-headed premier. He is a man of excellent sense, has had large experience in public life and would bring to the office ample equipment of the highest order for the delicate duties devolving upon him. The country may be sure that it will not be involved in any difficulty or placed in any false position through blunders in the state department by Mr. Sherman at the helm.

In all of his forty-two years of public life the Ohio senator has proven himself a patriot who ever had the best welfare of his country at heart and has shown statesmanship of the highest order. And it is not to be doubted that his administration of the state department would reflect as much luster upon his career as any of his brilliant services in the past. Mr. McKinley and the whole country are to be congratulated if John Sherman becomes secretary of state in the next administration.

## NOT FRIENDS OF SILVER.

In a speech before the bimetallic convention at Topeka on Tuesday ex-Senator John Martin declared that free silver was only a surface issue and that deep down beneath it were the real issues which the silver party would be called upon to solve. In the next breath he declared for the government ownership of railroads and hinted at other procedures which have come to be regarded as the socialistic programme, pure and simple.

At Boston on Monday George F. Washburn, member of the Populist national committee, issued an address to the Populist party, in the course of which he said: "We united with the silver forces in the recent campaign—not because we believe free coinage of silver is the solution of the financial problem, but because it would better existing conditions, would meet with the least resistance and would become the entering wedge for our main issue, viz.: Full legal tender paper money, issued and regulated by the government alone. We do not stand for redemption money, but for a scientific dollar, kept inviolable by proper regulation of the money volume."

At a dozen different places since the last election, leaders of the Populist party have uttered the same sentiments. In fact, they have lost no opportunity since election to over-furnish substantial evidence that the Republican charge was true and that the Populist party is not a friend to silver. But what does the Republican silverite, who believes in sound money and is not a flat greenbacker, think of the company into which he has fallen? How do those Kansas Republicans who assisted in carrying the state for Bryan and Populism enjoy Senator Martin's declaration that silver is only a "surface issue"? Are they satisfied to be led over into the camp of the socialist?

## THE INVESTIGATION FIASCO.

The action of the Missouri senate in delaying the investigation of the charges against the police department of Kansas City can be construed in no other way than that the Democratic party is afraid of its record. The reconsideration of the Lyons resolution was nothing but a square backward, and can be regarded in no other light.

Now that the United States and England have an arbitration treaty, we may hope that there will be an end to the bloody wars which have devastated the two countries for half a century.

Notwithstanding the great amount of trouble the press correspondents are having with its construction, it is believed the next cabinet will be framed in time and that it will contain some first-class material.

## MISSOURI POINTS.

The announcement that a new paper, making the fourth one, is soon to be started in Warrensburg by a former editor of the Odessa Moon, calls forth an expression of fear from the Clinton Democrat lest the Moon may get down to his last quarter in Warrensburg journalism.

A bill to which Assemblyman Cook, of Henry county, will devote special attention at the present session of the legislature will, if enacted, make life insurance policies non-forfeitable after two payments.

The project for an electric street car line in Nevada seems likely to become a reality soon, the present hope of its promoters being that work on construction will begin as soon as the middle of next month.

Major Mitchell, of Nevada, has received a letter under a London date from his son and daughter, Harry and Leola, who are traveling abroad with a theatrical company. They are likely to visit South Africa before returning to America.

Howard county will be put to an expense of not less than \$4,000 in replacing and repairing the bridges damaged by the heavy rains of two weeks ago.

The Marmaduke brothers, Colonels D. W. and Vincent, have become so heavily interested in Cripple Creek mining enterprises that they are likely to become permanent residents of Colorado the coming spring.

An Osceola man, Thomas M. Johnson, has been for a number of years collecting material for the publication of a work on the life and writings of Thomas Taylor, the Platonist. Mr. Johnson would be particularly grateful to anyone who would furnish him any letters, manuscripts or information of any character bearing upon his subject.

The war on dancing recently inaugurated by the Carrollton preachers has already resulted in the disbanding of the leading organization of the disciples of Terpsichore in that town.

"Rosa Pearl" is soon to leave Sedalia for Chicago, where she will engage in literary work on the leading literary and society journals in that city. The publication of her paper in Sedalia will be continued, under the supervision of Miss Alice Dugan, who is at present associate editor.

Editor McQuitty, of the Rocheport Commercial, is said to be slated for a berth in the pen as usher and mail clerk.

It would go along much better if she would not bunch her like that; four Missourians in the penitentiary twenty-five years apiece beat one sent up for a century.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

When the free silver Democrats get ready to resume the war for free coinage they will find their Populist allies all seated astride the flat paper hobby.

With John Sherman as his secretary of state, Mr. McKinley will have no reason to wish for an Olney.

Senator Mills wants to go to Spain with "the red blade of war." If Spain is prudent she will lose no time in asking that Mills be placed under bond to keep the peace.

In his answer to criticisms of the Eastern press Governor Leedy succeeds admirably in refuting everything except what the Eastern press has been charging—to-wit, that her yield of cranks is the biggest crop Kansas has raised.

Five of Kentucky's presidential electors have expressed themselves as opposed to the use of wine at the White House. The other seven are presumably willing for the president to have wine if he wants it, but they, too, would think more of him if he decided in favor of something stimulating.

"Revision of the tariff," says the Cincinnati Enquirer, "is very solemn business." The country has found that Democratic revision of the tariff is not only very solemn business, but very destructive business.

It is rumored that Major McKinley has at last satisfied himself as to the all-rightness of General Alger for secretary of war.

In his last message Governor Peter Turner urges legislation against the gold standard. It is not the gold standard from which Tennessee is suffering, however, but her standard of political honesty, as exemplified in thefts of the governorship.

When Mr. Thurber reads in the newspapers that Secretary Olney is the only man who can manage the president he smiles complacently and says nothing.

The governor of Ohio is suffering from the stomach ache. A good many politicians this side of Ohio are afflicted in the same way, but the trouble is not referred to in precisely the same words.

Congressman Johnson wishes men might be judged by their present instead of by their past. Democrats have been wishing the same thing about parties for the last twenty-five years.

It may or may not be true that Secretary Coburn, of the Kansas board of agriculture, has been chosen for head of the agricultural department under McKinley, but it is certainly true that the president-elect could not find a more capable man for the place, or one who would fill it with more credit to himself, to the administration and to the country.

John P. St. John says if he were governor he would enforce the law. However desirable enforcement of the law may be, few Kansas people will regret that St. John is not governor.

A reader calls the Journal's attention to the fact that Governor Leedy worked some poetry into his inaugural. That is bad enough, to be sure, but the public was quite prepared for a few atrocities in Mr. Leedy's inaugural.

The only unfavorable comment that could be made on the forming of a historical society in Kansas City is that the formation did not take place earlier. Many interesting facts in regard to the city's infancy and youth have been lost because they were not garnered years ago. However, the society has a great work before it, and in the performance of this work the public-spirited citizens whose services are enlisted in the worthy enterprise will have the earnest sympathy and co-operation of the community.

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There have been sold since election, it is said, through the local markets of the three towns of Peirce City, Sarcoxie and

Carthage, from 4,000 to 5,000 head of cattle, mostly, if not quite all, of them, to Kansas buyers.

John P. is making preparations for the 300 visiting delegates during the annual state convention of the Young Men's Christian Association, which is to be held there February 11-14.

The average net cost of maintaining the convicts in the penitentiary during the years 1895 and 1896 was 25.09 cents each a day. This included all expense for provisions, water, fuel, light, clothing, pay of officers and employees, etc., and is nearly 5 cents a head less than the best figures ever shown for similar service in Missouri heretofore.

Jeff City has begun to complain that business is being rushed so by the assembly that there is danger of sine die adjournment before the constitutional seventy days' limit has expired. The danger is by no means in the face of the known fact that the hotel people have made their rabbit contracts for a full term would be a rank and glaring injustice.

Handling hen products is an industry of importance in Springfield. Poultry dealers there, other than grocers, paid out more than \$500,000 for chickens and eggs during 1896.

## KANSAS TOPICS.

Governor Leedy remarked in his inaugural message that Wellington had his ally's er. He should also remember that Lewelling had his Pete Kline.

Rev. Ephraim McHenry is the names of the man who was defeated for sergeant-at-arms of the Oklahoma legislature without further investigation.

That pretty little story which has gone the world over about General Buckner sending ten gallons of whiskey and a \$50 bill to Dudley precinct, in Haskell county, Okla., pure and simple. The only true story about it is that the precinct gave Palmer and Buckner a majority.

According to Bill Morgan, the criminal record in Oklahoma county was very short last year. Ten persons were put in jail for minor offenses, two were sent to the penitentiary, and Joe Tomlinson was defeated for representative.

The appearance of Dr. Plicher at the state capital yesterday gave color to the rumor that Attorney General Dawes had not yet ran him out of the state.

It cannot be said that Senator Jump's bill for the regulation of passenger tariffs does not allow the railroads some latitude. It provides that the rate shall be 2 cents a mile or anything less which the railroads choose to make it.

Had Reid may have believed he was giving an accurate impression of Governor Leedy on the stage at the Topeka opera house, but the audience who saw the capitalist of the play come and go without having any blood blown in his ears knew better.

Abe Steinberger fired his departing shot when he resigned the office of secretary of the House of Representatives yesterday as president of the "Deformed Press Assn."

An investigation will probably reveal that Mr. McKenzie, who has been discharged as legislative reading clerk because he can't talk loud enough, is a Republican in disguise.

The little town of Harper has produced a number of celebrities. Fred Tural, the famous jockey, got his start there, as also did Marley Kettleman, the champion foot-racer. Two or three league baseball players claim Harper as their home, and now, in the person of W. F. McManis, she has produced a hypnotist and mind reader who is said to perform with ease all of the feats which have made others famous. He is a boy and discovered his power only recently.

Topics recounted shortly after election the case of Joe House, of Lebanon, who bet his cork leg on Bryan and lost it. There is a funny sequel to the story. The other day he received a letter from one T. B. Stringfield, of Sheldon, Ia., who stated that he had won a cork leg on the election, and, as he had no use for it, had taken the liberty to forward it by express to the loser, so that he could get it about and work for Bryan. As the Republican who won House's leg gave it back after a few days' exhibition of his trophy, the latter will now be well equipped with trotters.

On Tuesday night the Atchison city council adopted an ordinance which imposes a fine upon any person who permits his women to wear their bonnets during performances. The city clerk sprang the matter as a joke, but the councilmen passed the ordinance in dead earnest.

Do the workmen give undivided support to Senator Sterne's bill exempting wages of all kinds from garnishment? There was a law of this kind passed here in 1892, but it was destroyed by destroying their credit. The workmen who pay his bills has nothing to gain by it and is consoling to lose.

The Hutchinson News says Harry Bone has vindicated the fellows who voted against him by taking part in an amateur minstrel show.

Ex-Chief Justice Horton was forced, by press of legal business, to decline to deliver an address before the Oklahoma Bar Association.

The new editor of the Allen Empire is cutting a bad figure for himself in Western Kansas journalism under the cognomen of "Jack-the-Tipper."

There has been a deal of newspaper notoriety given recently to the fact that ex-Governor John A. Martin's grave in the Atchison cemetery is unmarked by even so much as a headstone. The workmen who dug the grave in the cemetery, she says: "My daughter, Mrs. Tonsing, sent me a clipping from a Scottsville paper, and says I am severely criticized. The article speaks of Martin's grave being in an obscure part of the cemetery. That is false, as it is only a few rods from the entrance, on the main avenue. In repairing the graves in the cemetery, I would say that it has always had the means to loving care, and until we moved to the cemetery, we made almost weekly visits there. We have erected no monument because we have never had the means to place there one that we thought appropriate. Love and devotion fortunately are not measured by the height of monuments, and happily is the man that after seven long years, still lives enshrined in the loving hearts of wife and children as does my husband."

"What are they firing that cannon for?" inquired Private Secretary Ed Little, as the booming of the inaugural guns jarred him. The answer was that the state was explained to him that fourteen guns were being fired in recognition of the fact that Leedy was the fourteenth governor of Kansas. "Fourteen," said Little; "well, when I was inaugurated, a cannon general, in Egypt they fired twenty-one guns. It is the number that is always fired in honor of newly arrived foreign dignitaries." All of which goes to show that Secretary Little holds an edge over Governor Leedy in more ways than one.

It remained for Kansas to invent the novel system of voting to determine whether or not a man should stay in jail. At Hutchinson, the state has been using the system in confinement under sentence for selling liquor. A movement was started to secure his release and the authorities declared their willingness to turn him out if the people of the town would wish it.

To determine this every pastor in town held an election in his church last Sunday.

The result was an almost unanimous decision that the landlord deserved his fate and that the sheriff should keep him.

A curious story comes via St. Joseph about a Kansas couple who were married on Tuesday. The groom was Isaac Elliott, a farmer, and the bride was the bride Miss Elsie Snodgrass, of Corning. He is aged 46 and she, in appearance, is not more than 12 or 13. Elliott appeared at the probate court on Tuesday morning and asked for a license, giving the age of his bride at 18. The judge demanded that she appear before him. The girl was in short dresses, but the pair hustled around and got some long skirts which she donned and appeared in court, where a good, stiff talk on the part of both procured the license. They were at the Atchison depot Wednesday, while en route home, and appeared to be as happy as possible.

Kansas Legislation and New York. From the New York Sun.  
The announcement is made at Topeka, Kan., that more than one-half the members of the Populist legislature are pledged to vote for a law which would give the insurance companies doing business in the state to invest in Kansas securities or real estate the greater part of the premiums collected. The evil done to the state by the operations of these companies was one of the themes upon which Populist orators were eloquent in the last campaign. It was shown that the yearly premiums received by the companies from Kansas people amounted to over \$1,500,000, and it was triumphantly asked if there could be a plainer instance of the exactions of foreign capital.

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We should say that, instead of the proposed law, the Populist legislature of Kansas should pass an act reading something like this:

"Section 1. No foreign corporation shall do business in Kansas, or loan money to citizens of this state.

"Sec. 2. Any person in Kansas shall do business with any foreign corporation or borrow money from it.

"Sec. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

The language of such an act as this is a most vicious and a most vicious one, but it is in the event of the passage of any such measure, the money now invested in Kansas by non-residents will be withdrawn as rapidly as it is consistent with business convenience. It will be likely, in fact, to stand upon the order of its going but to go at once, fearful of a general act of debt repudiation.

thoughtful and conservative citizens of the state will themselves go out of business and either leave the state or place their funds away from it. The remainder and majority of the people will be left to follow their mad way to its bitter end. The catastrophe will arrive in due course of time, and then in the face of the fact, the tumbled-down and depopulated cities, and the general beggary and ruin of Kansas, there may come some perception to the people of their ignorance and fanaticism.

Happily all this has been a purely academic interest. Yet we cannot disguise our concern that the Tammany society of New York at a recent meeting should have passed a declaration of its policy resolutions which were a declaration of anarchy and breathed as fierce an animosity toward the thrifty and the prosperous as if they had been written by Peffer or Mary Elizabeth Lease. It has been explained that these resolutions are insincere, and that they are merely "opening politics," and that if Tammany was in power instead of out of it, we would see no such warring of firebrands. But it is carrying the joke too far when, after a frantic assault upon the gas companies, the Tammany society declares that all corporations merely because they are such. The ballots cast for Bryan in this city in the last campaign are declared to be evidence of loyalty to Democratic principles, and combined with the fact that the Tammany society has denounced because they "promote economy of production, always at the expense of the toiler."

It has been apparent for some time that the Tammany society of New York is an organization, the only candidate in the mayoralty election which Tammany hall can logically support is Mr. Henry George. But even George would shrink the job on such a platform and turn it over to John Most or Justus Schwab.

In the meantime our newly made Populists are talking about running things to suit themselves in our own legislature, and they have trotted out as worthy of approval the "old" Tammany hall, among the strike boys, whose infamy is carried upon the rolls of the Third House at Albany from year to year. They seem to be sublimely unaware of the fact that there is a Republican majority in opposition to the legislature and that one Frank S. Black is governor.

## The Envoy to Utopia.

From the New York Sun.  
The Hon. Edward Oliver Wolcott, a senator in congress, sailed for Europe last Saturday on one of the most remarkable foreign missions ever entrusted to an American. The man is a considerable merchant in his own house as he sits in the smoking room and contemplates his functions; and large parties must be already gathering on the English coast to wait for his arrival. "I am going to Europe," said Mr. Wolcott, "and I will know the edge and content of Major McKinley, in the hope of promoting international bimetalism."

No doubt Major McKinley believes that the collector of the senator's goods, however little good it may do international bimetalism. But the senator expressly denies that he is "commissioned to act as the representative of the (next) administration." The only official character he acknowledges is that of a disinterested and candid observer of the subject.

"I am not sanguine of success," continued Senator Wolcott, who doesn't mean to lay up any unnecessary disappointment in the impatient enthusiasts who describe themselves as international bimetalists. But he will try. It is all anybody could do under the circumstances.